



# News Release

Public Affairs and Corporate Communications Office  
Space & Naval Warfare Systems Command  
4301 Pacific Highway, San Diego, CA 92110  
Telephone: 619-524-3470 Fax: 619-524-3469

For Immediate Release  
January 11, 1999  
News Release 1999-002

## SPAWAR Donates Excess Computers to Area Schools



Dr. Susan Mahler, Olympic View Principal, and Donna Williams an Olympic View Teacher, look over the computers SPAWAR donated to the school Monday while Donna Hall, another Olympic View teacher and Lt. Cmdr. Steve Bowman and his son, Shone, look over monitors. The computers, worth approximately \$7,500, are just a portion of the 600 computers worth more than \$232,000 donated to San Diego area schools since SPAWAR moved here in 1997. (U.S. Navy Photo by Richard Williamson, SPAWAR Public Affairs)

pieces of excess computer equipment. The total cumulative contribution of excess government computer equipment to San Diego area schools is valued at about \$234,500.

Support for the command computer donation program comes from many sources. First Class Petty Officer Kevin Swanson from USS MCKEE (AS 41) volunteered and came to SPAWAR on temporary duty for two weeks and did a superb job, clearing at least 15 pallets of hardware, according to Chief Petty Officer Tae Harris, SPAWAR Partnership Coordinator. Students from Grossmont College in San Diego volunteered to check out and setup computer systems, do inventory and palletize the computers for donation. Naval Reservists from one of the command's Reserve units, volunteered to categorize and prepare computer systems for donation to the schools.

Chief Petty Officer Mark Bowers, Command Equal Opportunity Advisor and Partnership Coordinator, worked with Doris Walker in Information Technology to secure transportation for the computers as well as soliciting volunteers from different ships and bases in the San Diego area. Doris Walker and Henry Nguyen did a tremendous amount of the behind-the-scenes work on this donation, according to Dan Mitchell, SPAWAR

SAN DIEGO -- The Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command delivered 15 computers valued at approximately \$7,500 to the Olympic View Elementary School in Chula Vista Monday.

SPAWAR donates excess computer equipment to the schools as a result of an Executive Order signed by President Clinton in 1996 that encourages Federal agencies to transfer computer systems no longer required by an agency to nonprofit educational organizations. The computers are held for a minimum of thirty days to determine if any government agency has a need for the equipment before it is donated to interested schools.

Olympic View Elementary School, located in South Bay's Eastlake development near the Olympic training facility, is one of 17 local educational institutions to benefit from SPAWAR's overall donation of approximately 600

Director of Corporate Information Systems. "They are tasked to gather, inventory and determine best use for older computer equipment in excess of SPAWAR's requirements and they did a great job," Mitchell said.



Dr. Susan Mahler, Olympic View Principal, Doris Walker, SPAWAR 07, Donna Williams and Donna Hall, Olympic View teachers, Henry Nguyen, Trent Mitsch, Janine LaBastille, LCDR Steve Bowman of SPAWAR and Shone Bowman pose with the 15 new computers donated to the school by SPAWAR.

Previous recipients of donated computers include: Anza Elementary School (22 computers), Greenfield Middle School (50 computers), Mount Miguel High School (30 computers), Kennedy Elementary School (50 computers), San Diego Public Schools adult division (15 computers), Harriet Tubman Elementary School (15 computers), Bethune Elementary School (40 computers), Southwest High School (35 computers), Army ROTC (10 computers), Twin Peaks Middle School (15 computers), [Fremont Elementary School](#) (20 computers), Christian Unified School District (17 computers), Center for Child Protection (60 computers), Rio Ceci School (25 computers), Sierra Madre Academy (20 computers) and University of San Diego High School (30 computers). SPAWAR also provided about 50 excess computers to the Naval Computer and Telecommunications

Station in San Diego and 50 systems to the USS Coronado (AGF-11) for Navy Sailor's use.

We're thrilled, said Dr. Susan Mahler, Olympic View principal. With no budget for computer equipment, the school relies heavily on donations from private and public sources. Eastlake is a fast-growing area in Chula Vista and needed additional computers to provide opportunities for school children to have hands-on experience with computer equipment and software. Having grown from 200 to 868 students in the last three years, the school is very much in need of computers to help both students and teachers keep up with technology. SPAWAR's donation will help the school meet its immediate goal of providing at least two computers per classroom, according to Dr. Mahler. The school has an enthusiastic volunteer tech committee with expertise to maintain these computers and tend to software problems.



**Dr. Susan Mahler, Olympic View Principal, Doris Walker, SPAWAR 07, Donna Williams and Donna Hall, Olympic View teachers, with some of the new computers, monitors and other equipment that SPAWAR donated to the school.**

SPAWAR's inventory of excess equipment accumulated as newer units, able to handle current software programs, were installed following the command's move to San Diego from Washington, D.C. The excess equipment includes computers, monitors, printers and system components, such as modems, disk drives and laptops. Although some of the computers are up to 10 years old, many schools welcome this equipment for basic computer training and word processing. The computers donated Monday all operate on the Windows-Intel (Wintel) system.

"We had a dedicated group of volunteers to make this happen," said Doris D. Walker, a computer specialist at SPAWAR who, along with Henry Nguyen, Logistics Specialist, coordinated the project's hard working volunteers from Grossmont College, Naval Reserve unit 619 from SPAWAR Systems Center San Diego commanded by Cmdr. Fred Beavers. Volunteers tested and repaired the computers before they were made available for donation. Notice of the availability of the computers was spread to area schools through a teacher network, she said.

SPAWAR has exhausted the current supply of excess computers. Schools interested in obtaining excess computers that might become available in the future should contact the SPAWAR Partnership in Education Coordinator, Chief Petty Officer Tae Harris, at 524-3059.

---

*Last update Thursday, December 07, 2000*